United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry | 180 Canfield Street Morgantown, WV 26505-3101

File Code: 3410 (NA-08-06)
Date: August 21, 2008

Subject: 2008 Aerial Sketchmapping Survey

To: Jo Reyer, Forest Supervisor
Wayne National Forest

On June 19, 2008, Dan Snider, Rod Whiteman, and Rick Turcotte, of this office along with Lauren Miles from the Allegheny National Forest conducted an aerial sketchmapping survey of the Wayne National Forest (WNF). The accompanying maps show the general locations and types of damage observed during these flights.

This year, we mapped a total of 8,057 acres (331 polygons) of visible damage within the proclamation boundary of the Wayne National Forest. Ground truthing surveys revealed that a number of different defoliators were active on a variety of hardwoods (chestnut oak, white oak, maples, sycamore, and black locust). The most commonly reported agents were native defoliators (including the locust leafminer, oak skeletonizers, looper complex, and common oak moth) and leaf diseases (anthracnose). Because the majority (91 percent) of the defoliation and discoloration mapped was low (equal to or less than 50 percent), little reduction in tree vitality or widespread re-foliation is expected.

Numerous areas of low, scattered defoliation and mortality were mapped on each of the Ranger Districts. Scattered tree mortality and branch dieback were reported again throughout the Ironton Ranger District in the ice storm-damaged areas. This mortality trend is expected to continue in these areas as trees damaged by the ice storm succumb to increased competition and attack by insects.

No reports of insect activity were received by this office. District Rangers and other field-going personnel are reminded that they have the primary responsibility for on-the-ground, initial detection of insect and/or disease outbreaks. We ask that all field personnel continue to monitor for evidence of insect activity (such as an unusually high number of moths present in the forest in early spring and late summer, which may be a prelude to a heavy defoliation event by defoliators), defoliation, discoloration, and mortality in their areas and report any insect and disease activity to the Morgantown Field Office.

I personally would also like to extend my appreciation to Michele Stephens for her valuable assistance in this survey. If you or any of your staff have any questions or comments regarding this survey, please contact Rick Turcotte or Ann Steketee at (304) 285-1503.

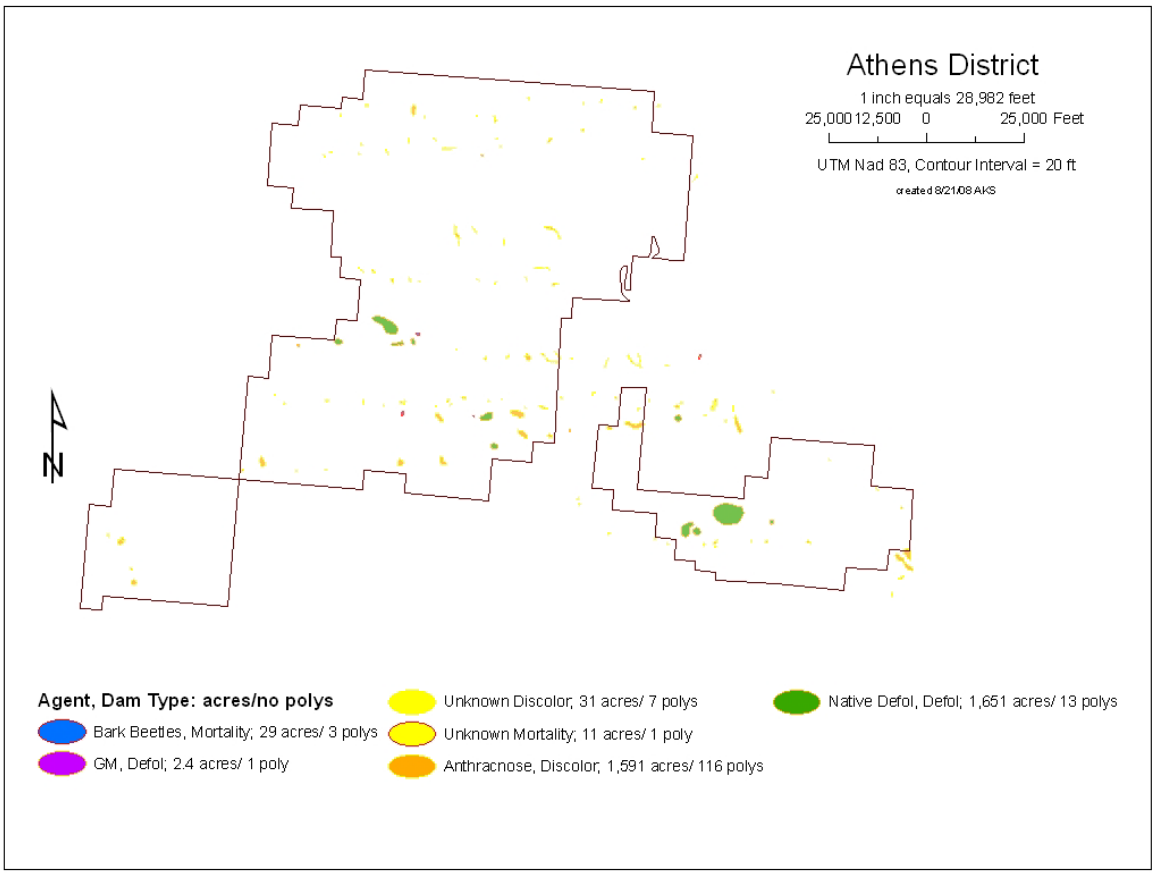
Sincerely,

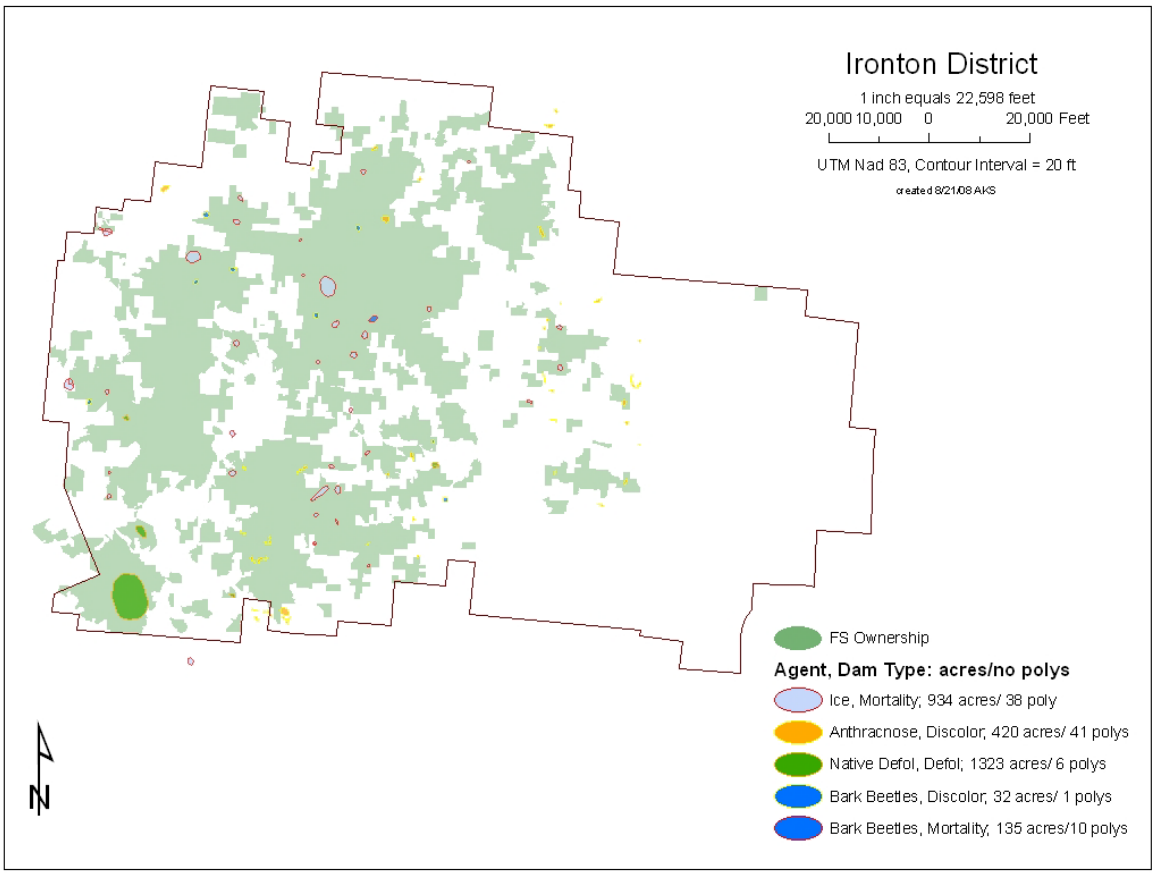
ROBERT LUECKEL

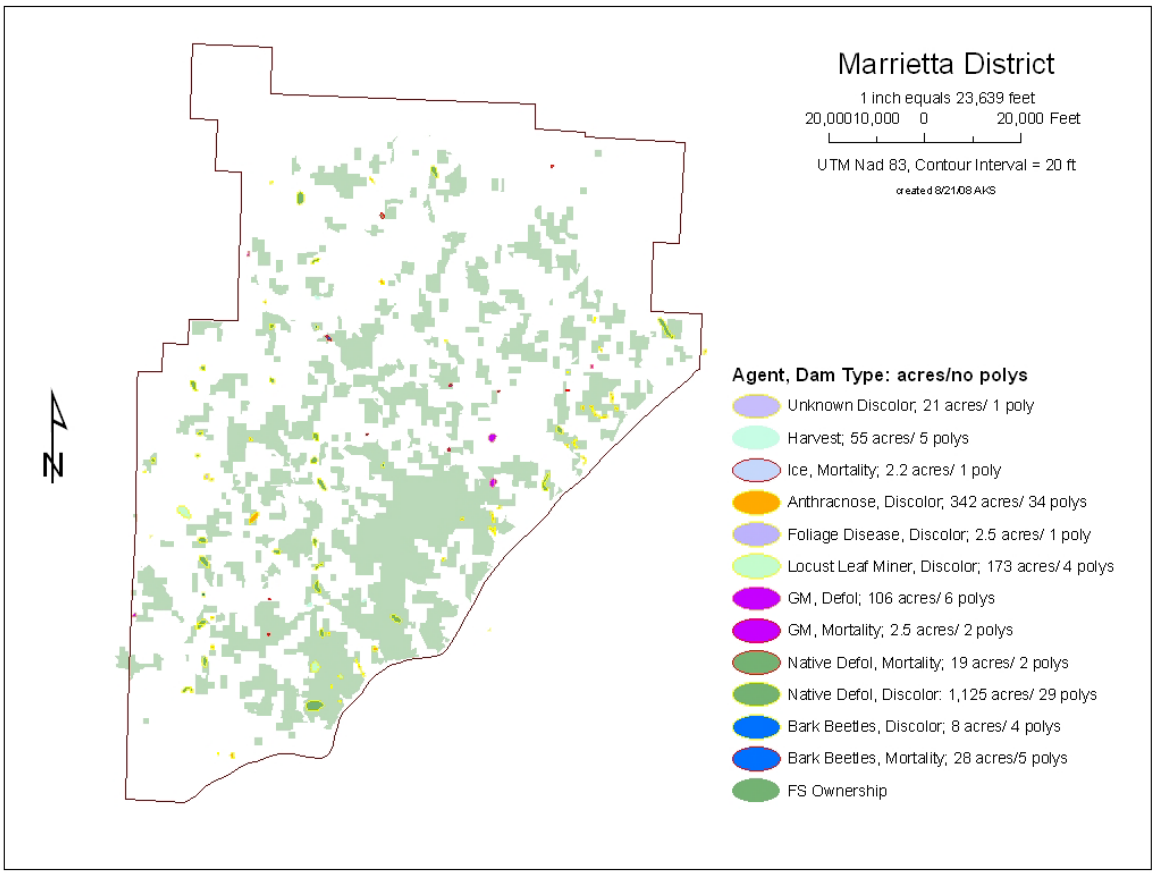
Field Representative
Morgantown Field Office

Cc: District Ranger, Athens RD
District Ranger, Ironton RD
Mike Freidhof, Timber Program Manger

RMT/AKS/SF


Athens District
1 inch equals 28,982 feet
25,000 12,500 0 25,000 Feet
UTM Nad 83, Contour Interval = 20 ft
created 8/21/08 AKS
N
Agent, Dam Type: acres/no polys
Bark Beetles, Mortality; 29 acres/ 3 polys
GM, Defol; 2.4 acres/ 1 poly
Unknown Discolor; 31 acres/ 7 polys
Unknown Mortality; 11 acres/ 1 poly
Anthracnose, Discolor; 1,591 acres/ 116 polys
Native Defol, Defol; 1,651 acres/ 13 polys


Ironton District
1 inch equals 22,598 feet
20,000 10,000 0 20,000 Feet
UTM Nad 83, Contour Interval = 20 ft
created 8/21/08 AKS
N
FS Ownership
Agent, Dam Type: acres/no polys
Ice, Mortality; 934 acres/ 38 poly
Anthracnose, Discolor; 420 acres/ 41 polys
Native Defol, Defol; 1323 acres/ 6 polys
Bark Beetles, Discolor; 32 acres/ 1 polys
Bark Beetles, Mortality; 135 acres/10 polys


Marrietta District
1 inch equals 23,639 feet
20,000 10,000 0 20,000 Feet
UTM Nad 83, Contour Interval = 20 ft
created 8/21/08 AKS
N
Agent, Dam Type: acres/no polys
Unknown Discolor; 21 acres/ 1 poly
Harvest; 55 acres/ 5 polys
Ice, Mortality; 2.2 acres/ 1 poly
Anthracnose, Discolor; 342 acres/ 34 polys
Foliage Disease, Discolor; 2.5 acres/ 1 poly
Locust Leaf Miner, Discolor; 173 acres/ 4 polys
GM, Defol; 106 acres/ 6 polys
GM, Mortality; 2.5 acres/ 2 polys
Native Defol, Mortality; 19 acres/ 2 polys
Native Defol, Discolor; 1,125 acres/ 29 polys
Bark Beetles, Discolor; 8 acres/ 4 polys
Bark Beetles, Mortality; 28 acres/5 polys
FS Ownership